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The Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRIOR ART DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

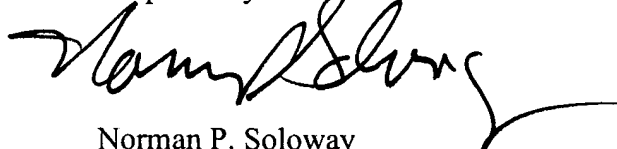
Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicant hereby attaches U.S. Patent Office Form PTOL-1449, including copies of the prior art references listed therein. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

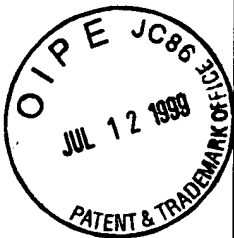
This prior art disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitute prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 8, 1999 at Manchester, New Hampshire.

By: *John H. Hynes*